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**Programming and Allocations Committee
November 4, 2009
Minutes**

Chair Kinsey called the meeting to order at approximately 3:12 p.m. Committee members present were: Commissioners Bates, Cortese, Daly, Glover, and Sartipi. Other Commissioners present were: Chu, Giacomini, Halsted, Lempert, Mackenzie, Rubin, Tissier, Worth, and Yeager.

Consent Calendar

The Committee approved the following consent items:

- Minutes of October 14, 2009 meeting
- 2010 Productivity Improvement Program (PIP) from Transportation Development Act (TDA) Triennial Audit Reports. MTC Resolution No. 3927
- 2009 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendment 2009-31. MTC Resolution No. 3875, Revised
- Proposition 1B-Transit: Remaining FY 2007-08 and FY 2008-09 Population-based Funds Allocation Requests. MTC Resolution No. 3880, Revised
- Revision to the FY 2009-10 State Transit Assistance (STA) Regional Coordination Program. MTC Resolution No. 3904, Revised
- Proposed allocation of approximately \$63 million in RM2 Capital funds to the Oakland Airport Connector and the Vallejo Intermodal Station. MTC Resolution Nos. 3819, Revised and 3828, Revised
- Proposed allocation of \$2.5 million in RM2 Operating Project funds to the SFMTA T-Third rail service. MTC Resolution No. 3898, Revised.

Regional

- *Allocation of \$33.7 million in FY 2009-10 TDA funds to various claimants for transit operating and capital purposes. MTC Resolution No. 3900, Revised.*

Theresa Romell, Programming and Allocations Section, presented Transportation Development Act (TDA) allocations exceeding the \$1 million delegated authority limit including SamTrans' request for \$30 million and Fairfield's request for \$5.7 million. Ms. Romell also presented Unmet Transit Needs responses for the Solano Transportation Authority (STA). Staff will initiate discussions with the STA, Solano County, and Rio Vista to phase out the use of TDA transit funds for streets and roads purposes beginning in FY 2010-11 due to the concern of growing county paratransit needs as well as frequent requests by Rio Vista for regional discretionary transit funds.

The Committee approved staff's recommendation for TDA allocations for SamTrans and Fairfield, as well as the finding that there are no unmet transit needs that are reasonable to meet in Solano County in FY 2009-10 and referred MTC Resolution No. 3900, Revised to the Commission for approval.

Federal

- *New Federal Transportation Funding Act Proposal.*

Alix Bockelman, Programming and Allocations Section, presented for information an update on the development of the \$1.4 billion funding proposal highlighting revisions to the proposal as a result of meetings held by the Climate Initiative Working Group, comments heard from the Partnership, and transportation stakeholders. Staff will bring the overall New Act funding framework and Cycle 1 funding commitments, including more detail on the Climate Initiative Program, to this Committee and to the Commission for approval in December.

Commissioner Dave Cortese asked what the Commission's role is in terms of analyzing, evaluating, and commenting on the prioritization of highway projects throughout the region and sub-region on a county-by-county basis. Steve Heminger responded that the Commission's role will vary from programming source to programming source but the ultimate goal is the approval of projects included in the Regional Transportation Plan; however, STP/CMAQ has generally not been used in the past as a funding source for highway expansion.

Commissioner Steve Kinsey expressed his appreciation to staff for continued work on the proposal. He further commented that one of the key programs proposed for the climate change initiative is Safe Routes to Schools and because Solano, Alameda, and Marin counties have experience with that he would like to convene a meeting with staff and members of those counties to look at the development of the proposal for this program prior to the December meetings to ensure that the organization of the program reflects those counties' experiences.

Public Comments:

Daryl Halls, Solano Transportation Authority, commented that there needs to be a strong commitment to fix-it-first and the current proposal has started to move in that direction.

Carli Paine, TransForm, commented that the overall funds outlined in the proposal are still falling short of the amounts targeted in the RTP especially for the Regional Bike Network and Safe Routes to Transit which is not included in the proposal.

Robert Raburn, East Bay Bicycle Coalition, commented that the elimination of Safe Routes to Transit in the proposal is not acceptable, especially given that the Transportation 2035 plan includes funding for both Safe Routes to Schools and Transit as part of the climate action campaign.

Dave Campbell, East Bay Bicycle Coalition, asked for support of full funding for the Safe Routes to Transit Program as the full Commission did back in April as a part of the Transportation 2035 Plan.

Rich Napier, City/County Association of Governments of San Mateo County, strongly supports the current proposal and the Freeway Performance Initiative (FPI) as presented, and pointed out that the FPI projects listed have the greatest return on investment, tend to cost less, have less environmental impact, and can get started faster.

Dennis Fay, Alameda County CMA, stressed the importance of maintaining the current priority for “fix-it-first” and pointed out that the level of funding in the current proposal is inconsistent with the notion of fix-it-first and the numbers that are in T2035. He also encouraged that funding for local streets and roads and transit rehabilitation be increased.

Andrew Castillo, Bay Area Bicycle Coalition, commented that the proposal is moving in the right direction; however, there is much more that needs to be done to live up to the promises made in the RTP and it is unacceptable that funding the Safe Routes to Transit is not included in the proposal.

This item was received for informational purposes only and no action was taken by the Committee.

- *American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) Proposed Extension of Delivery Deadlines.*

Ross McKeown, Programming and Allocations Section, presented a request for the Commission to extend delivery deadlines to two projects: Pedestrian Signal Upgrade (Transportation Enhancements) and Freeway Performance Initiative (Safety and SMART Highways). Staff has found that the requests submitted are reasonable and will not jeopardize ARRA funds to the region.

The Committee unanimously approved staff’s recommendation for deadline extensions for project sponsors as outlined in the packet.

California Transportation Commission Update

The Committee received, in writing, staff updates on the California Transportation Commission (CTC) meeting held on October 14-15 in San Diego.

Public Comment

Commissioner Kinsey adjourned the meeting at approximately 3:58 p.m.